

Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /063 W

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R 191221Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3720

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 3233

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: PMAC TRIES AND EXECUTES REBELS

REFS: (A) ADDIS 3052; (B) ADDIS 14331;

(C) ADDIS 14265; (D) ADDIS 14231

1. MEDIA MARCH 18-19 REPORT THE EXECUTION OF HAILU REGASSA, TADESSE BIRU, ALULA BEKELLE, REZENE KIDANE, MELESS TEKLE AND GIDAY GEBRE-WAHID LATE MARCH 18 IN ADDIS ABABA.

2. ACCORDING PRESS, THESE MEN HAD BEEN TRIED BY A SPECIAL MILITARY COURT. LATTER CONDEMNED HAILU REGASSA TO THE CAPITAL PENALTY AND THE REST TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. THIS VERDICT WAS REVIEWED BY PMAC WHICH DIRECTED, ON THE BASIS OF THE EVIDENCE AND THE CRIMES WITH WHICH THESE MEN WERE CHARGED, THAT ALL BE EXECUTED.

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3. HAILU REGASSA AND TADESSE BIRU WERE FOUND GUILTY OF "ATTEMPTING TO DISRUPT THE ETHIOPIAN POPULAR MOVEMENT" AND TO OPPOSE THE NATIONALIZATION OF RURAL LAND. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL (REF A) THAT THESE GALLA LEADERS WERE RECENTLY CAPTURED NEAR AMBO.

4. ALULA BEKELLE, DESCRIBED AS A HARD-CORE SUPPORTER OF THE OLD ORDER WHO HAD ABUSED HIS OFFICE TO HIS OWN BENEFIT, WAS CHARGED WITH PLOTTING "TO DISRUPT THE POPULAR MOVEMENT." HE RESISTED ARREST LAST DECEMBER 2 AND "OPEN FIRED ON SECURITY FORCES DURING WHICH INNOCENT BLOOD WAS SHED BEFORE HE WAS CAPTURED" (REF B).

5. THE OTHER THREE INDIVIDUALS WERE FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMB EXPLOSIONS AT CITY HALL AND WABE SHEBELLE HOTEL LAST DECEMBER 2 (CF REF C) "IN WHICH THREE INNOCENT PERSONS WERE KILLED AND TEN OTHERS SERIOUSLY INJURED." THEY AND THEIR ACCOMPLICES, WHO ARE STILL AT LARGE, WERE ALSO HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DECEMBER 2 BOMB EXPLOSION AT BOLE AIRPORT'S FUEL DEPOT (REF D), "ACTS OF TERRORISM WHICH WERE MEANT TO DISRUPT THE ETHIOPIAN POPULAR MOVEMENT AND TO CREATE CONFUSIN AMONG THE PEOPLE OF ADDIS ABABA."

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ADDIS03233
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750096-0633
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750338/aaaabhvp.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ADDIS 3052, 75 ADDIS 14331
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PMAC TRIES AND EXECUTES REBELS
TAGS: PINS, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006